# On The Lake News

Live, Work and Shop in Hickory Creek

#### **Dates to Remember:**

Memorial Day—Town Offices Closed—May 28, 2012

Father's Day-June 17, 2012

Independence Day - Town Offices Closed—July 4, 2012

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Welcome Summer!



Thank a veteran this Memorial Day and Fourth of July.



This is the first anniversary of the dedication of the Hickory Creek Veterans Memorial Park. If you have not visited, please make plans to come to the memorial plaza and honor those who have served our country.



It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived. George S. Patton

## Don't Try This at Home -Or Anywhere Else Either!



As the weather gets warmer, remember that pets can suffer hyperthermia quickly, and it isn't enough to leave the windows down slightly. A study by McMaster University, funded by GM of Canada, found that within 20 minutes, the temperature of a previously air-conditioned small car on a 95°F day exceeded 122° within 20 minutes, and soared to 150°F within 40 minutes. Leaving the window slightly open did little to prevent the car reaching a dangerous temperature. Even an outside temperature of 68°F can result in a vehicle becoming hot enough to injure or kill a pet. If you do leave the windows open, a dog could bite a well-meaning passerby who reaches in to pet it. Many dogs inside any confined area become extremely aggressive and territorial. They may be totally sweet dogs outside the car, but they turn into Cujo because they're stressed. And some dogs have separation anxiety. If a dog is left alone, some of them will tear the car apart. The experts concur: when it comes to cars, pets should be treated like children, properly secured and never left alone. If your pet must come with you, plan both for his safety, and for yours. And if it's at all possible, the safest thing is to leave him at home.

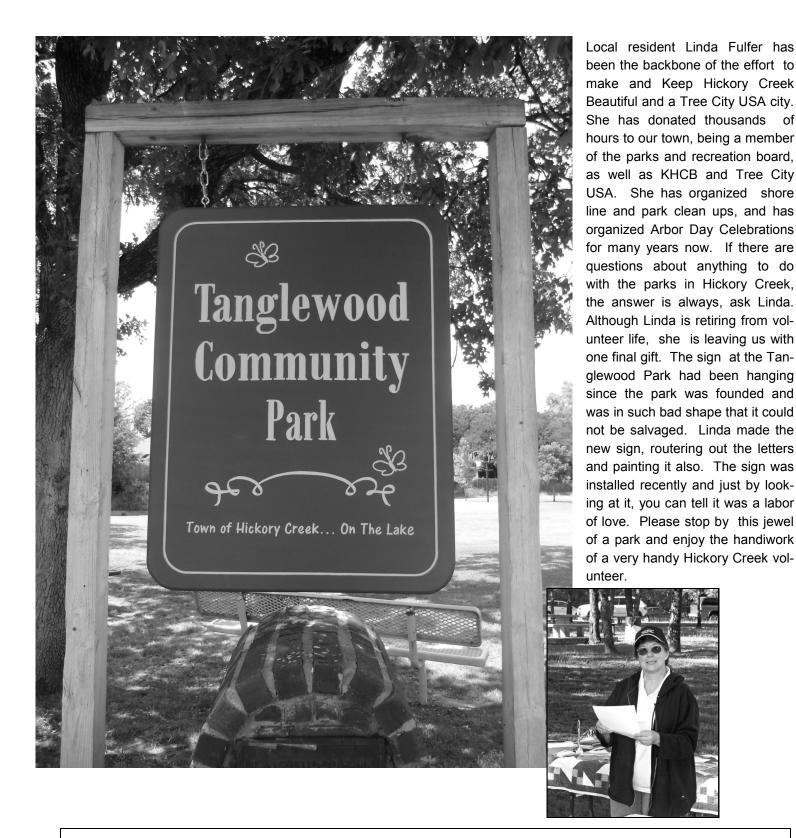
For more information, visit Bark Buckle UP or

http://www.canadiandriver.com/2009/03/03/feature-pet-safety-in-cars.htm? page=all

As a pet owner, with summer already heating up outside, please leave your pets at home in the air conditioning.

Your vehicle is no place for your beloved pet!

Your Friends at Hickory Creek Animal Services





## Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful Launches New Web Site

Please visit www.keephickorycreekbeautiful.com to send us your suggestions and get the latest information on KHCB programs and events in Hickory Creek.



Mayor Smith and Mayor Marino

Mayor Smith and TOHC Council

The annual tradition of celebrating our Nation's birth continues on July 4th – Lake Cities style. Wednesday, July 4th, from 9 AM to 10 PM the cities of Corinth, Hickory Creek, Shady Shores and Lake Dallas unite for a one-of-a-kind 4th of July blow-out celebration. Lake Dallas' City Park will be filled with Independence Day festivities including a morning parade, contests for cash prizes, great food choices, and vendor booths along with live entertainment.



The parade, sponsored by Bill Utter Ford in Denton, rolls at 9 a.m. through the streets of Lake Dallas and ends at City Park just before the flag ceremony to kick-off the daylong celebration. This year's main stage will feature musical entertainment throughout the day including the evening's headline performance by *Eleven Hundred Springs* at 7 p.m. followed by a spectacular fireworks display.

The Lake Cities 4<sup>th</sup> July Celebration is a free event with contests, a children's

play area, delicious food options, and a vendor market. For more information on the Lake Cities 4<sup>th</sup> of July including sponsorship, vendor booths and activities – contact Julie Chapman at 940-497-2226 x132 or visit <a href="https://www.lakedallas.com">www.lakedallas.com</a>.







#### **Hickory Creek Parks News**

The Town of Hickory Creek has been updating and renovating their parks the last couple of years. This article details the improvements and future plans for the parks. The parks board is always looking for additional members and volunteers. We only meet once a month, but do have many fun projects so visit our website (www.hickorycreek-tx.gov) for a volunteer application. Work is usually performed or supervised by the Hickory Creek Public Works department but the town also utilizes volunteers in the form of shore line clean up, Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful trash clean up days, and Eagle Scout projects.

The different Eagle Scout Projects include the equestrian trail in Sycamore Bend, a new sign at the entrance to Sycamore Bend Park, brush removal at Point Vista Park South Leg, and rail repainting at Arrowhead Park.

Pay stations have been installed at the parks that have boat ramps and camping. The town has leased these parks from the Corps of Engineers and as such, money from these pay stations and the sale of boat ramp passes is used exclusively for the upkeep and improvements in these parks. When you pay your fee, you are helping the town keep the parks updated for your enjoyment.

In the past couple of years, the docks have been rendered unusable when high winds broke the linkages so all boat docks have new pilings installed to protect them. Since the pilings have been installed, we have not had one wind-related incident.

All boat docks have had new surfaces installed. This material is environmentally friendly and cool to the touch during those hot Texas days. Remember, the boat docks are for loading and unloading of boats, not for fishing. Please be courteous to the boaters and do not crowd the docks.

In addition, the town has installed signs describing the amenities in our parks.

#### Arrowhead

Arrowhead Park has seen many improvements in the last couple of years. In addition to the items described above, new bumpers on the docks protect the boats, updated playground with benches and swings around it, and more picnic tables have been added.

#### Harbor Lane Park

This park is a perfect setting for an old-fashioned picnic with a wicker basket and a blanket spread out on the ground. If your preference is a picnic table and a grill, they are scattered throughout the park for group gatherings.

Nestled in the middle of this park is a delightful playground with a mix of old world and new memories

of past summer days. Riding the merry-go-round will still bring out the childhood squeals of yesterday for a whole new generation.

Future plans include putting in lights for the parking area and the playground as well as updating the picnic tables.

#### Point Vista

Did you know that Point Vista actually consists of two different parks? There is a North Leg and a South Leg. The North Leg is where you'll find the convenient pay station and the boat launch and dock.

The South leg contains a few picnic tables with a beautiful view of Lake Lewisville. Recently, there has been work on renovating the southern portion of the South Leg. The walkway has been widened and brush has been removed. We've even heard tales of small wildlife living in the wilder areas so please be respectful of it so all can enjoy it.

#### Sycamore Bend

We have wonderful boy scouts in our community and they have completed two awesome projects in Sycamore Bend. An impressive sign was constructed and installed at the entrance to this uniquely wonderful park. At the far end of the park we have a new equestrian trail; a sign was made guiding riders to the trail entrance. The trail was widened, lined with logs, trees trimmed, and an area was created with a bench to enjoy the serene view by the lake.

The primitive campgrounds have been enhanced by removing shrubs at the edge of the lake making way for an amazing view and extraordinary place for camping.

Last but not least, Hickory Creek has improved your boating experience at Sycamore Bend Park by adding a new boat dock. In conjunction to that we have added & replaced our lighting with more energy efficient solar lighting. You'll also find grills for cooking along the waterfronts.

We hope to continue to improvement portions of the park over time by renovating the restroom areas.

#### Tanglewood Park

The Town maintains this neighborhood park with playground inspection, mulch for the playground, lighting, irrigation and playground maintenance. Our Tree City USA folks provide continuous tree risk inspection, tree maintenance, and advise the town on tree care. In 2011, the huge elm tree near the playground was saved by a professional cabling and pruning procedure.

In the last few years three large bur oak trees have been added to the park. A professional lawn care company was hired to install a sprinkler system and maintain the lawn.

In the years to come, one of the wishes of the park board is to install a full size basketball court to replace the half court that is in the park now.

A new handmade park sign has been installed above the planter in the park. The original sign was made by a park board member and installed when the park was dedicated to the town. The new sign has also been made by a park board member and will be in place soon. Please notice this beautiful new additional to the park while you are there.

As you can see, the Parks Board and volunteers have been hard at work. If you haven't taken advantage of these parks in the last couple of years, please do so and don't forget to bring your fishing pole, there are still plenty of big fish to catch.

You won't be disappointed.









## DO YOU HAVE A BIG BEAUTIFUL TREE?

As part of Hickory Creek's Tree City USA Program, Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful is seeking nominations for this year's largest and most beautiful tree. Nominations will be accepted through October Color Co

Visit <a href="https://www.keephickorycreekbeautiful.com">www.keephickorycreekbeautiful.com</a> for more information about how to nominate your tree, Arbor Day activities and ways to help Keep Hickory Creek Beautiful.



Meet Officer Bentley, the Town of Hickory Creek's newest employee. He is on duty at the animal shelter greeting guests and making sure that the animals are on their best behavior. He will also patrol the town and be a good will ambassador assisting the Animal Services Officer while visiting local schools and day care centers. Come visit the shelter today and say hello to Officer Bentley. To arrange for a visit from the Animal Services Officer for your class, please call Town of Hickory Creek Animal Services at 940-465-7444.



### FOOTPRINTS PRESCHOOL

Bry Kenney, Director 300 East Hundley Drive Lake Dallas, TX 75065 940-497-4267

footprints@lakecitiesumc.org

Footprints is a state licensed preschool located in the Lake Cities United Methodist Church.



#### JOIN US FOR THE 2012 Footprints' OLYMPICS!

Footprints is offering 3 exciting OLYMPIC summer camps!

Each week is full of different age appropriate games and challenges that teach your child about the Olympics!

- Fun and educational for all ages
  - Age appropriate curriculum

Classes are taught by current Footprints teachers.

DATES: June 25th, July 9th, and July 30th

TIME: M, W, F 9am-2pm

AGES: 2 yrs. - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade (must have completed 2<sup>nd</sup> grade)



#### **ANIMAL SERVICES REMINDER**

Hickory Creek Animal Services is partnering with Woof City, 604 Main Street, Hickory Creek, to offer a complementary grooming for all animals adopted from the Hickory Creek Adoption Center. Don't forget to use Hickory Creek Animal Services for your micro-chipping needs, where \$20.00 will supply you with not only the security of a micro-chip, but also lifetime monitoring for your pet. Remember to register your pet with HCAS as added insurance that your pet will be returned to you if lost. Registration is a state law and may be accomplished easily with only a copy of your pets' rabies vaccination cer-

## PARKS REMINDER

Everyone is encouraged to visit all of Hickory Creek's beautiful parks but please remember that Arrowhead, Point Vista and Sycamore Bend Parks all require a pass for their use. Annual passes are available at Town Hall or a voucher may be purchased at any of the Park Pay Stations. Same day passes for Boat Launch, Day Use and Sycamore Bend Camping are available at the Pay Stations located in the parks.

Annual passes and one day use receipts must be clearly displayed in the vehicle. Annual passes should be hung from the rear view mirror, facing forward. All other receipts must be placed on the dashboard, face up, in a location that is not obscured by any stickers, tinting, items on the dashboard, sun visors, etc.

Any vehicle found that is not properly displaying a park pass will be issued a citation.



## HICKORY CREEK

ON THE LAKE

Jeffrey McSpedden

Director of Public Works

and Animal Services

970 Main Street, Hickory Creek, TX

940-497-2524

469-576-5094

www.hickorycreek-tx.gov

jeffrey.mcspedden@hickorycreek-tx.gov

## Improper disposal of yard waste can cause flooding

Did you know that blowing or sweeping grass clippings, fallen leaves, or other yard waste into the street or down the storm drain can cause flooding? Yard waste that is swept or blown into a nearby storm drain can clog the storm drain and keep water from draining through. The problem is further exacerbated when it rains, particularly during a hard rain. The result, unhappy neighbors!

Clogged storm drains also use up tax dollars because the Hickory Creek public works department is required to clean it out. This means that your tax dollars are being spent on avoidable problems, like cleaning clogged storm drains, and not on more necessary items, like fixing potholes. A routine cleaning of storm drains is part of the Hickory Creek public works job description, but often clogged storm drains can go undetected until it is too late and flooding has damaged property.

Hickory Creek asks that you properly manage your yard waste by leaving it on the lawn. Don't blow or sweep your grass clippings or fallen tree leaves or other yard waste into the sidewalk, driveway, street, or storm drain, and don't bag your yard waste. Instead, mulch it and leave it on the lawn!

Why? Leaving your yard waste on the lawn is:

- Good for your landscape. Grass clippings and fallen leaves are truly a valuable natural resource. Grass clippings left on the lawn can provide up to 25% of your lawn's total fertilizer needs, and leaves contain 50 to 80% of the nutrients a plant extracts from the soil and air during the season. To keep these nutrients where they can nourish your lawn, mulch grass clippings and leaves and leave them on the lawn, or compost them.
- Good for your wallet. Not only does blowing or sweeping yard waste into the street or nearby storm drains consume taxpayers' money, but bagging this yard waste to be hauled off to local landfills also uses valuable landfill space and costs residents more in increased taxes and service fees. By leaving grass clippings and fallen tree leaves on your lawn, you are supplying it with natural fertilizers, which means you spend less money on store-bought fertilizers.
- Good for your local lakes, rivers, streams, and creeks. Yard waste that is left in the street, sidewalk, or driveway, or which is dumped,

blown, or swept into the storm drain will eventually be washed into nearby creeks, streams, rivers, and lakes during a storm or by water runoff from watering your lawn. Yard waste in a local waterway can deplete the oxygen level in the water, which is harmful to aquatic life. Chemical fertilizers used on the lawn can also wash down the storm drain, so by using your yard waste as a natural fertilizer, you can help reduce storm water pollution.

To keep your yard waste from clogging storm drains and being washed into local waterways:

- Remove yard waste from the streets, sidewalks, and driveways. Use your leaf blowers or brooms to blow or sweep grass clippings or tree leaves back up into the yard where they can help provide additional nutrients to your lawn.
- Don't Bag It<sup>TM</sup>! Use grass clippings or fallen leaves as mulch or shred them and use them to fertilize your lawn and protect landscape plants from extreme weather. Mulching mowers and blades make this easy. (But be sure to clean up any yard waste that gets into the street).

If you hired a company to care for your lawn, educate them on proper lawn care.

For more information on proper lawn care, contact Hickory Creek public works at 940-497-2524 or www.hickorycreek-tx.gov.

## HICKORY CREEK PARKS SYSTEM

Hickory Creek Park Fees	Daily Fee Annual Pass 2 Year		
	\$2		
Day Use (Non HC Resident)	(all users)	\$20	
<b>Boat Launch (HC Resident)</b>	\$10	\$35	\$60
<b>Boat Launch (Non HC</b>			
Resident)	\$10	\$60	\$110
Camping Fee (Sycamore			3
Bend)	\$7 day	\$40 week	

#### TRAFFIC SAFETY TIP FROM YOUR MUNICIPAL COURT:



### Always Pull to "Right" Side of Roadway

On the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle or police vehicle, an operator, unless otherwise directed by a police officer, state law (TC 545.156) requires that you shall:

Yield the right-of way

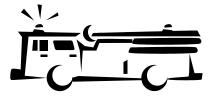
Immediately drive to a position to the *Right-Hand* edge or curb of the road way clear of any intersection; and

Stop and remain stopped until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed.



Pulling to the Right-Hand side of the roadway includes yourself being pulled over by a police officer. Pulling to the left-Hand side of the roadway is an infraction of the law, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

Failure to comply could result in a fine of up to \$200.00.





## Town of Hickory Creek .....On The Lake News

1075 Ronald Reagan Blvd. Hickory Creek, Texas 75065 PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID LAKE DALLAS, TX PERMIT NO. 75



### 2012 Events

Town Offices Closed—May 28, 2012 Father 's Day—June 17, 2012 Town Offices Closed—July 4, 2012

#### **Town Hall Meetings**

Parks & Recreation Board 1st Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Board 1st Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Animal Welfare Board
1st Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Town Council
3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Adjustments
3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Economic Development (4B) Corporation. 4th Thursday at 7:00 p.m.





Please visit our websites www.hickorycreek-tx.gov / www.hickorycreekEDC.com Town Hall - 940-497-2528

#### **Police Department**

1075 Ronald Reagan Ave. Hickory Creek, Texas 75065

# Police Emergency 911 Police Department (940) 497-3520 24/7 (940) 349-1600

Town of Hickory Creek...
On The Lake News
If you would like to be added to
our mailing list or have questions

or comments to share, please e-mail news@hickorycreek-tx.gov call (940) 497-2528